

South Carolina Department of Insurance

Capitol Center 1201 Main Street, Suite 1000 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 NIKKI R. HALEY Governor

RAYMOND G. FARMER Director

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100105, Columbia, S.C. 29202-3105 Telephone: (803) 737-6160

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Phone: 803-737-6207

Contact: Ann Roberson

A Message from Ray Farmer, Director of Insurance Concerning South Carolina's National Ranking for Bad Drivers

Statistics show that South Carolina ranks third in the nation for having the worst drivers. This is not a statistic we should be proud of. In fact, as of today, nine hundred and forty-six people have died on South Carolina roads this year. South Carolina has placed first in the Fatalities Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled Category and seventh in both speeding and careless driving. The majority of careless driving is caused by distracted drivers. Surprisingly, 64 percent of all car accidents involve cell phone usage.

"While there are many of us sharing the road, we alone have the power to control our own actions, said Ray Farmer, Director of Insurance. This responsibility requires us to make good choices when getting behind the wheel as our decisions impact not only our individual lives but all those around us."

There are simple rules drivers can use to guide them when they are behind the wheel: put the cell phone away, do not multi- task, obey the traffic laws, do not speed and never drink and drive. Living by these simple rules can not only ensure the safety of yourself and others but also impact the cost your insurance, including property damage, medical costs, and lost productivity.

As we are in the midst of the holiday season, make the personal decision starting now to be a better and safer driver. South Carolina is counting on you.

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